

VLB ARRAY MEMO No. 499

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
Socorro, New Mexico

26 September 1985

TO: VLBA Members
FROM: Cam Wade
SUBJECT: Site Group Meeting, 850925
PRESENT: Brundage, Hogg, Kellermann, Napier, Oty, Peery, Ross,
Wade, Walker

PIE TOWN:

Site acquisition is nearly complete. Only remaining snag is the water line clearance. We still expect to have the right-of-way granted by about 1 October.

Construction drawings are complete. Contract documents are being prepared by Bill Porter. We hope to take bids during the first week of November, and to start construction by no later than the first of January, 1986.

KITT PEAK:

Site selection is pretty much settled. The soils report has been received, and the survey ought to be finished during October. We expect to meet with the NOAO people in November to arrange the transfer of the site to us.

A radar of the proposed NEXRAD network is planned for Sierrita, about 38 miles southeast of Kitt Peak. This necessarily is a matter of concern; Dewey Ross is keeping track of developments.

LOS ALAMOS:

The survey is finished. We should have the soils report by the end of October. We expect to complete the site plan and to start the acquisition process during November.

WASHINGTON:

Our local agent, Wally Lauterbach, has located a number of sites in the Omak area which seem to fit our criteria. Peery and Wade will go to Washington next week to look them over. We hope to make a preliminary selection.

COMSAT has been informed, with thanks, that we do not wish to take over their Brewster facility.

HAWAII:

Jim Oty will go to the Big Island on October 14 to start the RFI tests. The initial 10- to 14-day series of measurements will be made at the Mauna Loa Weather Observatory. This will be followed by several days each at the 11800-foot site on Mauna Kea and at a yet-to-be-determined location at a lower elevation in the eastern Saddle area.

TEXAS, ST. CROIX, IOWA, OWENS VALLEY, NORTHEAST:

Nothing new.